Titus 1:9 "holding to the faithful word which is according to the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in the sound doctrine, and to convict gainsayers."

THE SOUND DOCTRINE ACCORDING TO THE TEACHINGS.

INTRO:-

We aim to make clear the New Testament meaning and use of the word "doctrine".

1. It is one of the most vexed and tortured of words, theologically considered.
   a/ We ask, "What Xn doctrine does Rev.....preach?" and we think of the doctrine of the Trinity, or of the Deity of X, or of Baptismal Regeneration, or of Election etc.
   b/ We speak of a Xn Faith and Practice.
   -When Paul was asked about the doctrine he never thot about a Trinity or an Incarnation but about certain duties---his faith was practice.
   Ti.2:10 the do. for servants
   Ti.2:12 the do. for all men
   ~~1 Tim.4:1 false do. What is it? v.2.~~
   ~~1 Tim.1:10 they, the do. contrary to sound do.~~

According to Paul, then, the kind of faith that saves a man is not intellectual but moral, not a head-belief but a heart-belief which regulates conduct and builds character.

I. Paul's attitude toward intellectual error and toward moral error compared.

1. Paul's treatment of intellectual error. I Cor.15:12
   a/ those in error members of the Corinthian church who did not believe in the physical resur. of X.
   b/ Paul did not brand them Socinians, or some other nickname and throw them out the church.
   c/ nor does he deny their right to call themselves good Xns.
   d/ Paul calmy and fairly endeavors to point out their error, ever recognizing their good works in the Xn life

I. 2. Paul's treatment of moral error. I. Cor.5:5-13.

a/ Paul gives this man no quarter at all, this man who perhaps never doubted the Res. of X, but who was openly a whoremonger.

b/ 1 Tim.5:8 A man who neglects his family is worse than one who denies the faith.

Better to disbelieve the Xn faith intellectually than be a bad husband and a bad father.

II. Paul supported by Christ Himself. Mtt.13:23-24

III. The relationshil between head-belief and heart-belief.

1. A man does right, not because of intellectual error, but in spite of it. Often the heart sieezes the truth and acts upon it in spite of the head.

A good Mohamedan is not good because he does not believe in the supreme revelation of God in Christ, but because he believes that there is one God. A little truth often paralizes a great deal of error, and that is why we often see a person who is better than his creed.

2. Intellectual error, tho not radically evil, often leads to evil.

a/ the illogical individual may escape--the devout woman confessing to the priest.

b/ the logical/ mass of people--soon believethat by getting the priest to utter a shibboleth one is at that moment loosed from his sins; soon they grow to treat sin lightly and they sear theyr consciences with a hot iron.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO GET OUT OF THE HEAD THAT WHICH IS FALSE.
IT IS IMPORTANT TO GET INTO THE HEART SOMETHING WHICH IS T TRUE.

IV. How should the church present a saving faith to the world?

1. By only asking one to believe what he can honestly profess to believe.
   a/ it is wrong to compel a man to swallow the Bible and the Prayer-Book whole.
   b/ what would be a minimum of belief?
      The love of God.
      The life of God in Man.
      Duties of family andsocial life.
      The necessity of speaking the truth.
      Belief in Self-control.for purposes of uplift and betterment.

   c/ is this fragment enough?

      How Horace Bushnell dispelled his doubts.
      A professor in Yale.
      "There is one thing of which I have no doubt: there is a difference between right a wrong."
      "Am I willing to throw myself on the side of right as far as I can see the right?" That ethical principle dissolved his doubts.

What shall we do with the church doctrines
1. Believe them? 2. Cast them utterly aside?
3. Or sift them for the truth they contain?

The doctrine of Predestination
1. Unscriptural
2. Unchristian
3. Rests on a false hermeneutics
4. Does not stand the test of experience.
5. In contradiction to God's law of Progress.

Peter } Sons of Zebedee
Peter
Simon Zealot
Thaddeus
Nathanael or Bartholomew
Judas Iscariot
Matthew
Philip
Thomas
James son of Alpheus

Peter
James
John
Matt.
Philip
Nathanael
Thomas
Thaddeus
Simon the Zealot
Jas. son of Alpheus
Judas Iscariot